



DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

News Release

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DRUG NUISANCE ABATEMENT ACTION FILED AGAINST ALLEGED KAAPALI DRUG DEALER

HONOLULU - The Department of the Attorney General's Drug Nuisance Abatement Unit has filed its third Maui drug nuisance abatement action. The complaint, filed on February 15, 2005, alleges that defendant Jason Reardon distributed drugs on the beach area in front of Whaler's Village in Kaanapali.

The State also filed an Ex Parte Petition for a Temporary Writ of Injunction to prohibit Reardon from residing in or returning to a portion of Kaanapali located makai of Honoapiilani Highway. Judge Joseph Cardoza signed an order temporarily prohibiting Reardon from entering or returning to the specified portion of Kaanapali, where a large number of hotels are located. The prohibition will remain in effect until a hearing on March 9, 2005. At the hearing, the State will ask the court to extend the prohibition.

This is the first nuisance abatement action filed by the Attorney General to seek a broad geographical restriction on a defendant.

Officers of the Maui Police Department served the complaint and order on Reardon on February 15, 2005. Reardon has twenty days from the date of service to respond to the allegations in the complaint.

Reardon was also served with a criminal complaint and summons charging him with the offense of Promoting a Detrimental Drug in the Second Degree. Arraignment and plea on the criminal charge will be held in Lahaina District Court on February 23, 2005. Reardon is presumed innocent until proven guilty at trial.

This nuisance abatement action was accomplished through the cooperation and efforts of the Department of the Attorney General, the Maui Police Department, the Maui Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency.

First Deputy Attorney General Lisa Ginoza said, "This action sends a message to drug dealers that the sale of drugs in the community will not be tolerated. We expect this action to bring some relief to the Kaanapali community and its residents and visitors. The Attorney General is committed to working with the community and other law enforcement agencies to disrupt drug distribution

throughout the State of Hawaii."

Ginoza encouraged the public to report their observations regarding suspected drug houses and illegal drug activity to the police, or to contact the Attorney General's Drug Nuisance Abatement Unit at the following hotline numbers:

Oahu: (808) 586-1328

Neighbor Islands toll free: (800) 9NO-METH (966-6384)

Fax: (808) 586-1371

E-mail: stopice@hawaii.gov

The public may also file a report with the Drug Nuisance Abatement Unit by logging on to www.hawaii.gov/ag/stop_ice_index.htm.

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For more information, contact:

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